



# Integration of the Health Agency: Perspectives from the Department of Public Health

Integrated Advisory Board Meeting  
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# Presentation Overview



- I. What is Public Health?
- II. Overview of Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
- III. DPH's Role in the Healthy Agency
- IV. Discussion

# What is Public Health?

The practice of **preventing** disease and promoting good health in **groups** of people, from small communities to entire countries.

– American Public Health Association



## Factors Influencing Health

Medical Care, 10%

Genetics  
20%

Behaviors &  
Environment  
70%

DHS Hospitals  
DMH Services  
DPH Clinics

### Other DPH Activities:

- Healthy Community Design
- Environmental Justice & Protection
- Regulatory Functions
- Policy Work



# Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

Mission: To protect health, prevent disease, and promote the health and well-being for all persons in Los Angeles County.

**\$970m**

**FY 16-17 BUDGET**

**14**

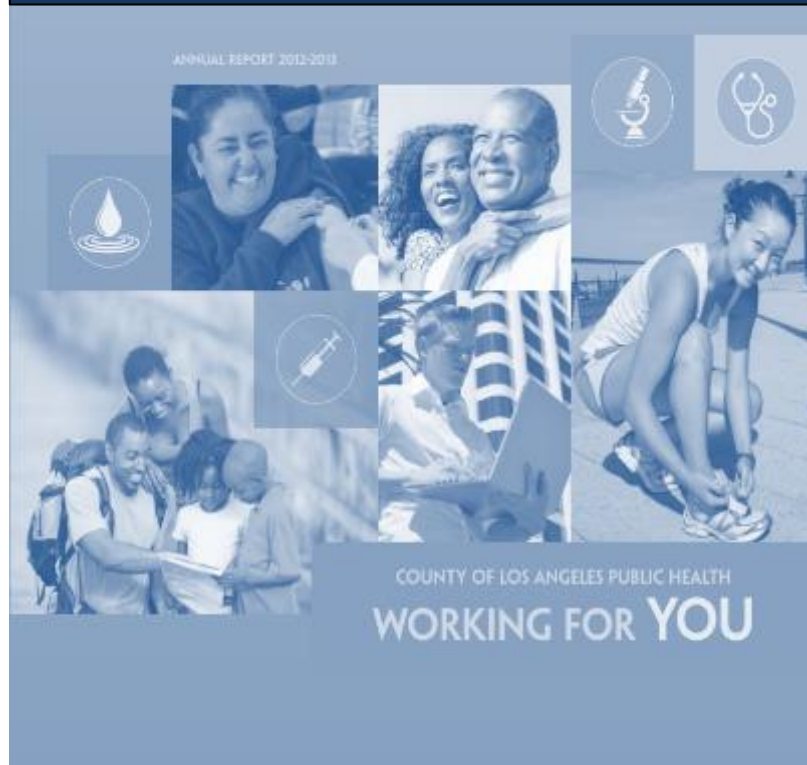
**HEALTH CENTERS**

**39**

**PROGRAMS**

**4699**

**STAFF**

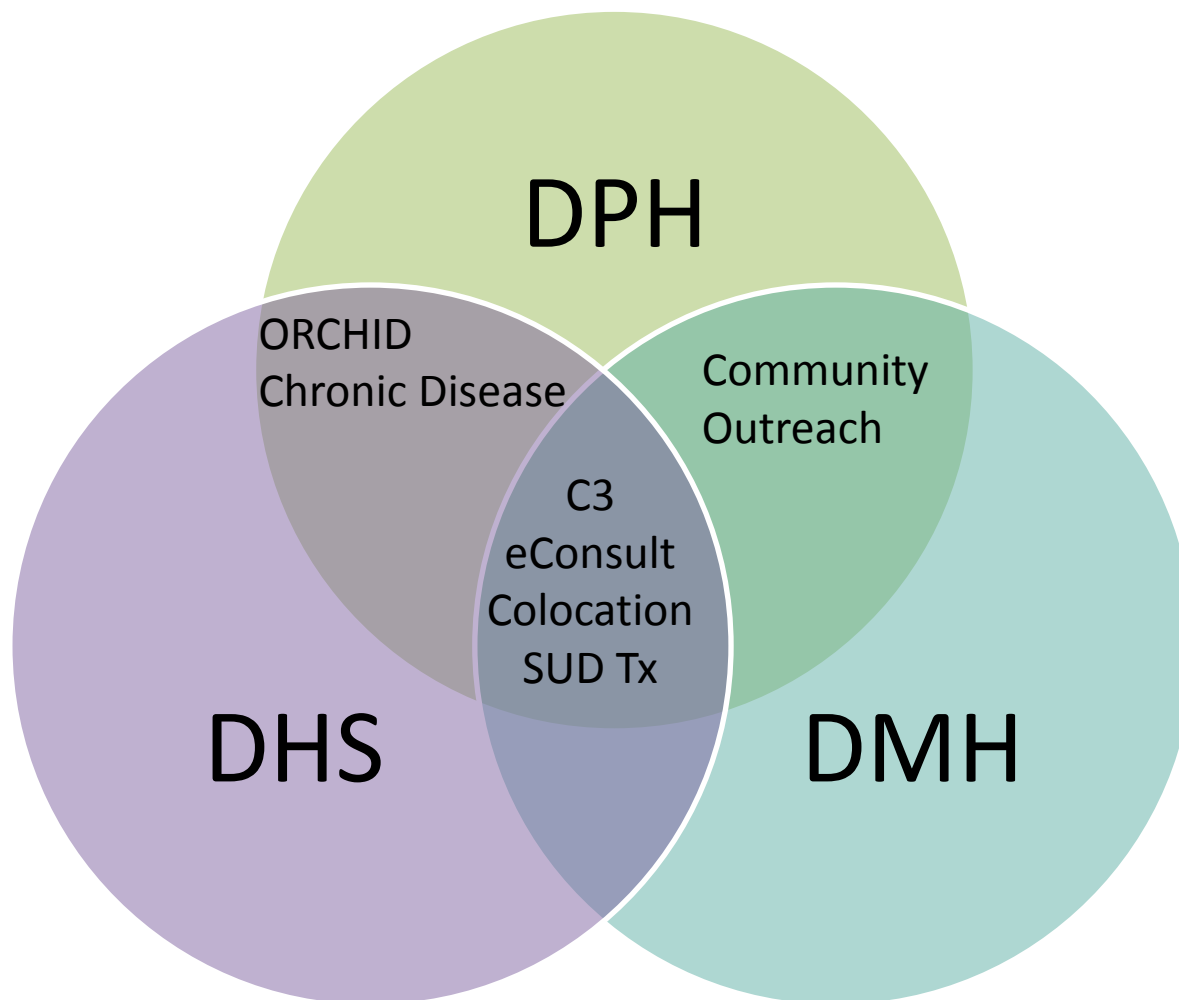




## Our vision is “Healthy People in Healthy Communities”



## DPH & the Health Agency



# DPH-Led Strategic Priorities

Of the 8 Health Agency Strategic Priorities, DPH is leading:

- **Expanded Substance Use Disorder Benefit**

- Bridge housing for populations leaving SUD residential treatment
- Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)
- Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- DMC- certified providers and facilities

- **Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention**

- National Diabetes Prevention Program
- Tobacco cessation interventions
- Parks After Dark





# Proposed Metrics

## Expanded Substance Use Disorder Benefit

1. By 2020, increase percent of people who receive SUD treatment from 18% to 23%.
2. Between 2017 to 2020, reduce SUD-related DHS ED visits and hospitalizations by 2% per year.
3. By 2018, train at least 80% of Health Agency clinical staff on SBIRT protocol.
4. Increase Health Agency patients receiving MAT from < 1% to 3% by 2020.

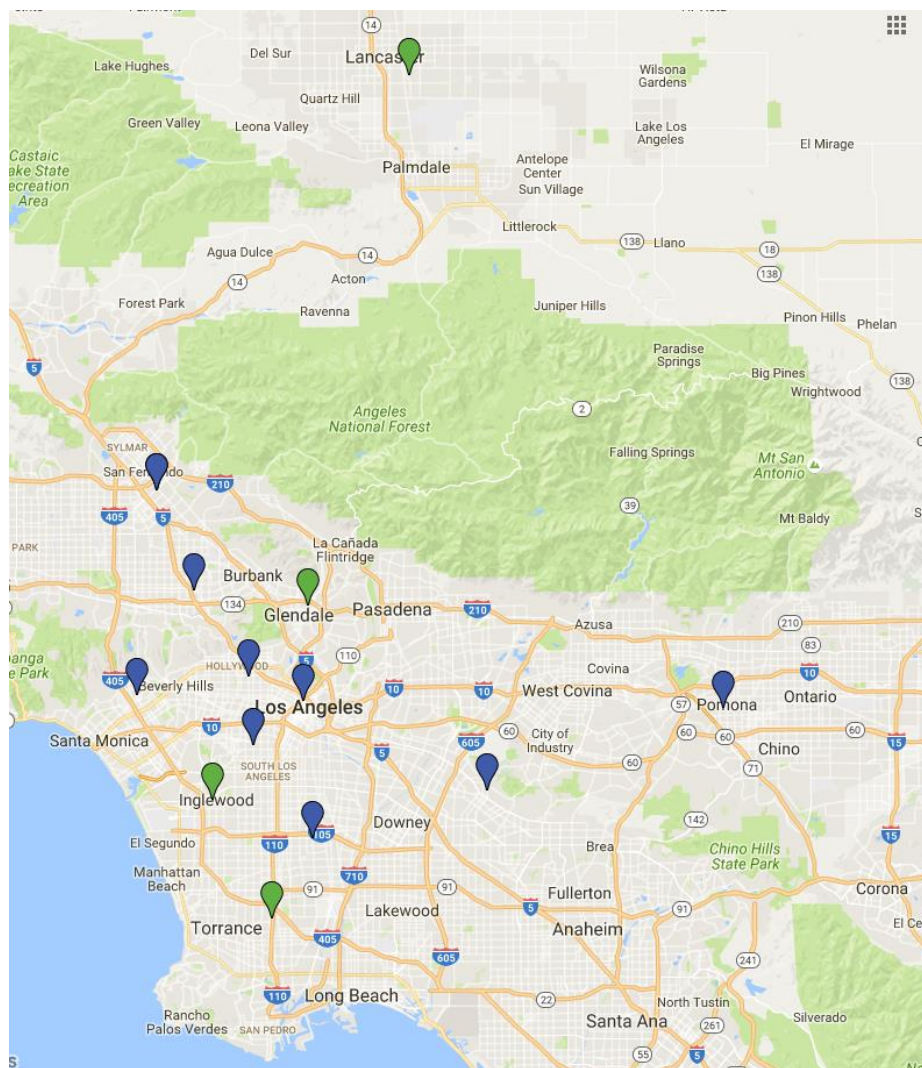
# Proposed Metrics

## Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention

1. Decrease the prevalence of tobacco use from 13% to 10% by 2020.
2. Decrease the prevalence of obesity for adults from 24% to 22% and children with obesity from 22% to 20% by 2020.
3. Reduce by 10% from 2015 to 2018 the number of violence-related trauma center ED visits and hospitalizations among residents of Park After Dark communities.
4. 75% or more of Health Agency directly-operated clinics will have a smoking cessation protocols implemented by the end of 2018.

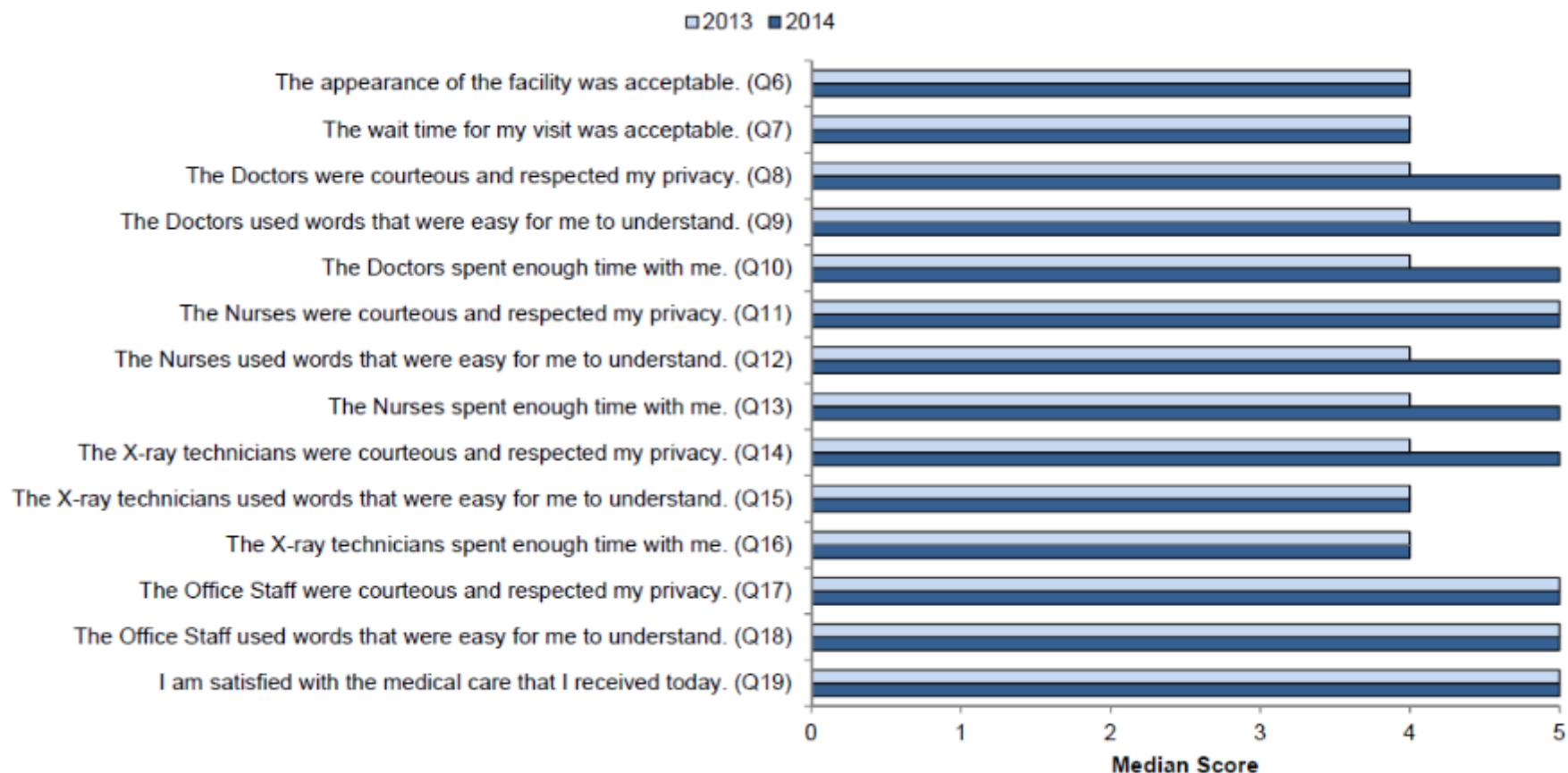
# Public Health Centers

- Antelope Valley
- Central
- Curtis R. Tucker
- Glendale
- Hollywood-Wilshire
- Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Monrovia
- North Hollywood
- Pacoima
- Pomona
- Ruth-Temple
- Sims/Mann
- Torrance
- Whittier



## Median Scores from the Patient Experience Survey from 14 Health Centers, 2014 vs. 2013

KEY: 1=Strongly disagree; 2=Disagree; 3=Neither agree or disagree; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly agree



# Environmental Justice

- Exide Battery Plant
- Aliso Canyon Gas Leak
- Maywood Fire
- Quemetco Inc.



Image by Dianna Ingram/Bergman Group

**PROTECTING THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH**



# Government Alliance on Racial Equity (GARE)

A year-long training cohort charged with developing formal recommendations to advance a **race and equity action plan** for LA County.



County participants:



# Opportunities for Future Agency Collaborations



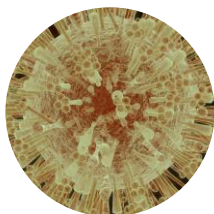
Improved contracting with CBOs



Prioritizing prevention and population health



Stronger voice in policy issues & development of a unified health policy platform



More effective response to emerging infections (e.g., Zika)



**We would love to hear your ideas!**

## Discussion





## Contact:

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# Community Health Improvement Plan for Los Angeles County Summary

## PRIORITY AREA 1

### • Increase Prevention to Improve Health

**Goal 1.1:** Prevent and manage chronic disease

**Goal 1.2:** Increase access to care (medical, clinical preventive services, mental health, dental)

## PRIORITY AREA 2

### • Create Healthy and Safe Communities

**Goal 2.1:** Prevent and reduce violence

**Goal 2.2:** Prevent and reduce traffic collisions

**Goal 2.3:** Reduce exposure to air pollution

**Goal 2.4:** Reduce transmission of infectious diseases

**Goal 2.5:** Prepare for emerging infections and other threats to public health

## PRIORITY AREA 3

### • Achieve Equity and Community Stability

**Goal 3.1:** Increase the availability of safe, quality, affordable housing

**Goal 3.2:** Increase the number of youth who graduate high school and pursue higher education

**Goal 3.3:** Prevent and treat substance abuse



# COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR LOS ANGELES 2015-2020

## *Working Together to Build Healthy, Equitable Communities for Everyone*

The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) for Los Angeles County is meant to guide public and private activities, initiatives and investments that improve the health of people living in Los Angeles County by creating healthier communities where families live, work, learn and play.

### The CHIP charts a path for improvement in three priority areas:

#### Increasing Prevention to Improve Health

- Ensuring prevention of and better management of chronic disease, and increased access to the right care at the right time

#### Creating Healthy and Safe Communities

- Building healthier neighborhoods that have less violence, fewer traffic collisions, and better air quality; prevent the spread of infectious diseases; and are able to recover quickly from natural or man-made disasters

#### Achieving Equity and Community Stability

- Striving for equity by increasing the availability of safe, affordable housing, increasing the high school graduation rate, and preventing and treating substance abuse

Each of the CHIP priority areas includes measurable objectives and strategies with the overall goal of narrowing health disparities and improving population health.

The CHIP recognizes that building healthy communities and improving population health requires strong and diverse partnerships where every person, organization, and sector plays a role in promoting community well-being. Contributors include local governments (planning/land use, transportation, housing, law enforcement), school districts, non-profit organizations, hospitals and clinics, philanthropic organizations, faith based organizations, and many others.

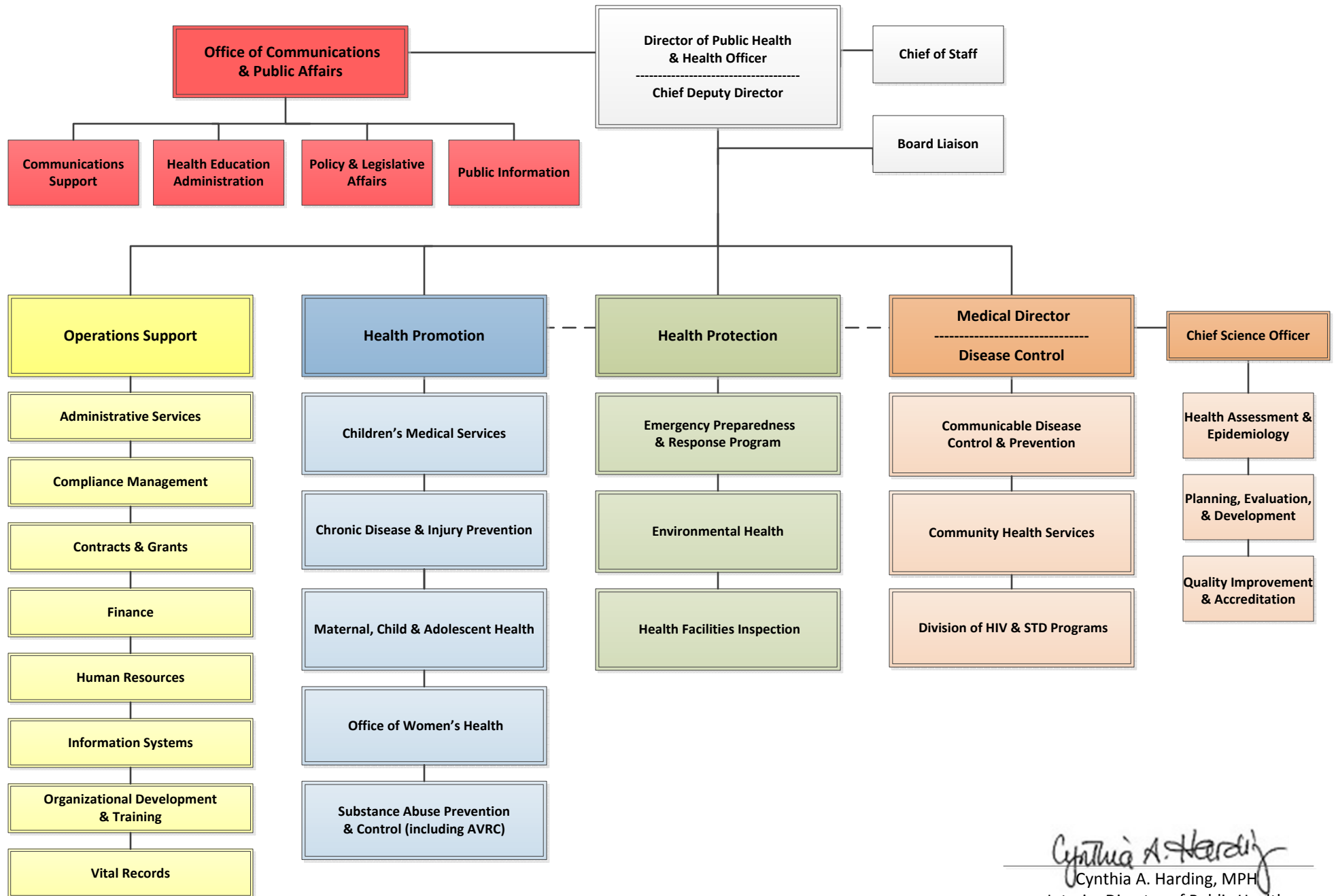
#### To learn about ongoing CHIP activities and opportunities for involvement:

- Visit [www.thinkhealthLA.org](http://www.thinkhealthLA.org) to find local partnerships and coalitions working on CHIP strategies, to access community health data and best practices, and to download the CHIP online
- Use #LACHIP to track and link relevant activities on Twitter



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



*Cynthia A. Harding*  
Cynthia A. Harding, MPH  
Interim Director of Public Health  
September 9, 2014

## WORKING TO PROTECT AND IMPROVE HEALTH

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) protects health, prevents disease and promotes health and well-being for all persons in Los Angeles County through a variety of innovative programs and services.



### DPH PROVIDES 24/7 PROTECTION AGAINST ILLNESS, EPIDEMICS AND HEALTH-RELATED EMERGENCIES

- DPH tracks and monitors infectious diseases within the County, in California, in the United States and around the world since such diseases have no boundaries.
- DPH led a County-wide interdepartmental taskforce focused on Ebola preparedness in LA County, and conducted timely outreach and education to empower residents with information about Ebola.
- DPH manages an electronic disease and laboratory reporting system, which provides early warnings of possible disease clusters or outbreaks—and even single cases of priority diseases or infections.
- DPH investigates reported diseases and conditions and, when appropriate, offers testing and treatment or vaccines to prevent more cases.
- DPH issues health alerts to doctors, veterinarians, hospitals and laboratories with critical information and instructions related to unusual health circumstances and potential health-related emergencies.
- DPH works with hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, ambulatory centers and other healthcare providers to prevent and control infections acquired in healthcare settings including those caused by antibiotic resistant bacteria
- DPH runs a state-of-the-art laboratory, which provides testing 24/7 to quickly address disease outbreaks.
- DPH gives vaccine to thousands of children and adults to protect against vaccine-preventable diseases.
- DPH has a comprehensive emergency plan that allows rapid deployment of staff to provide medication, vaccines and other resources to reduce disease and death caused by health-related emergencies.

- DPH collaborates with local community- and faith-based organizations to engage neighborhoods in preparedness planning.

### DPH ENSURES CONSUMER SAFETY

- DPH protects residents from contaminated and unsafe foods.
- DPH proactively contacts vendors across the County about recalled food items and sends inspectors out to ensure recalled products have been removed from store shelves.
- DPH empowers consumers with visible letter grades, based on the food handling and safety practices within the kitchen, for every restaurant.
- DPH investigates consumer complaints related to food items, restaurants, housing, noise and animal infestations.

### DPH IMPROVES COMMUNITY HEALTH

- DPH plans and implements projects designed to improve community health, often working with our community partners to address and overcome barriers to better health.
- DPH provided over 60,000 substance use disorder (SUD) treatment annual admissions and services through a network of community-based organizations.
- DPH provides user-friendly information about a wide range of health topics in several languages by way of press conferences, telephone hotlines, social media and a robust website.
- DPH helps low-income children and their families receive and retain health insurance coverage.
- DPH works with community partners to reduce infant mortality rates; special programs have resulted in fewer infant deaths within the most vulnerable groups.
- DPH helps young, low-income, first-time mothers by offering home visitation services to improve pregnancy outcomes and parental behaviors.
- DPH provides education on child passenger safety and distributes free and reduced-cost car seats to families in need.
- DPH collaborates with school districts, community-based organizations, parents and city officials to address the obesity epidemic.





- DPH supports the delivery of STD screening and treatment services to thousands of residents through a vast network of public health clinics, community-based organizations and school-based clinics.

### DPH ADVOCATES FOR BETTER OPTIONS, SAFER ENVIRONMENTS AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

- DPH collects and examines local health data and informs local leaders, decision makers and community advocates of findings with recommended actions for health improvement.
- DPH works with cities and other agencies to adopt smoke-free public space policies for areas, such as parks, beaches, outdoor dining, and multi-unit housing and policies designed to protect youth from access to all tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes.
- DPH helps communities improve access to playgrounds and open space at school locations after school hours for physical activity through "joint-use agreements."
- DPH works with local school districts to improve the nutritional quality of school meals.
- DPH participates in the Parks After Dark Program, which provides recreational opportunities for high-risk youth and their families—part of the County's Gang Violence Reduction Initiative.
- DPH helps low-income cities and communities develop and implement jurisdiction plans that promote walking and biking, such as Safe Routes to Schools plans and bicycle and pedestrian plans.
- DPH helps communities to increase access to affordable healthy foods and reduce promotion of unhealthy food and beverage options.
- DPH supports the delivery of lifesaving medical care and support services to over 10,000 low-income residents living with HIV/AIDS each year.

### HEALTH SUCCESSES IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

- DPH supported the delivery of more than 150,000 HIV tests in 2014, allowing residents to learn their status, access care (if needed) and interrupt the spread of HIV.
- DPH provided timely response to outbreaks and clusters of vaccine-preventable diseases such as measles, pertussis and meningococcal meningitis.

- DPH, with partners, has significantly reduced infant mortality rates to below the national goal level.
- DPH assisted 22,500 children and adults in securing healthcare insurance coverage in 2014
- DPH efforts have contributed to a significant decrease in smoking in Los Angeles County, which now has one of the lowest levels of smoking in California as well as the United States; 100% of the Los Angeles County coastline is now smoke-free and several cities have smoke-free outdoor areas, including parks, outdoor dining, and public events such as farmers markets.

### DPH IS RECOGNIZED AS A NATIONAL LEADER IN LOCAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

- DPH is the only public health department in the nation with an established, daily partnership with the FBI. This unique partnership requires high levels of security clearance and quality public health expertise to effectively support rapid assessment of potential health-related terrorist or criminal acts.
- DPH's restaurant grading system has been adopted in cities across the U.S.
- DPH's charge to mandate calorie labels on menus led to state laws.
- DPH received the second-largest competitive funding award from the federal government to expand and advance innovative projects aimed at reducing chronic diseases in Los Angeles County.

### DPH IS A VALUABLE ASSET TO ALL RESIDENTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

The County's public health staff are committed subject matter experts who are adept at disease prevention, disease control, health promotion, health advocacy and health improvement strategy. These public health professionals are prepared to address complex health challenges—and to seize opportunities that make a difference in health—for people, families and neighborhoods across LA County.

### Keep up with the latest news from the Department of Public Health

Website: [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov)



English: [www.facebook.com/lapublichealth](https://www.facebook.com/lapublichealth)  
Español: [www.facebook.com/LASaludPublica](https://www.facebook.com/LASaludPublica)



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# Strategic Plan 2013-2017



## Healthy and Safe Community Environments

- Increase the capacity of community environments to support active living and healthy eating.
- Increase the capacity of community environments to support tobacco-free living.
- Increase community safety and decrease potential for injuries.
- Reduce community environmental hazards.
- Reduce the impact of substance abuse and addiction.

## Preventive Health Care

- Determine and implement appropriate scope of DPH clinical services to be provided in light of health care reform.
- Promote quality assurance and use of evidence-based clinical preventive services among clinical providers.
- Improve integration of medical, mental health and substance abuse services.
- Ensure that vulnerable populations served by DPH continue to have access to quality services throughout health care reform implementation.

## Empowered Health Consumers

- Improve DPH and partner capacity to help consumers understand basic health information and make appropriate health decisions.
- Identify and counter misleading promotion of health-related products and services.

## Health Equity

- Strengthen organizational capacity to implement health equity initiatives.
- Generate and disseminate meaningful and actionable data and reports on health equity, social determinants, and health disparities.
- Provide DPH input and guidance on policy and advocacy efforts regarding health equity and social determinants of health.
- Engage key partners in addressing social determinants of health.
- Incorporate health equity and a focus on social determinants into ongoing DPH efforts.

## Public Health Protection

- Improve effectiveness in preventing and controlling infectious disease.
- Enhance the effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of surveillance systems.
- Improve DPH capacity to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies.
- Improve the ability of communities to withstand and quickly recover from emergencies.

## Improved DPH Infrastructure

- Maintain a skilled, competent and empowered workforce.
- Maximize administrative efficiencies through effective use of technology.
- Improve DPH use of and contributions to the evidence base.
- Increase capacity to pursue policy and legislative approaches.
- Ensure effective communications.
- Ensure readiness for and obtain national accreditation.
- Effectively assess, utilize and improve departmental facilities.